

The Church of God EVANGEL

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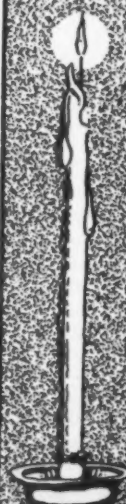
DECEMBER 23, 194



"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, . . . And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger." Luke 2:11-13, 16.

"And, lo, the Star"

PHILIP D. GENDREAU, N.Y.



Notices

Special Notice

There will not be an Evangel published the week of December 30.

Change of Address

L. G. Rouse—Old: Rt. 12, Knoxville. New: 2349 McCrosky Ave., Knoxville 17, Tenn.

We are in evangelistic work this year and are open for calls. At present we are in Norfolk, Va., in a revival. God is blessing. Our old address was 1248 Bolivar Rd., Cleveland, Ohio; our new address is Rt. 3, Box 269, Warren, Ohio. —J. A. Lewis.

We are here in Syracuse, N. Y. We need your help and cooperation. Any member or friend living in and around Syracuse, we invite you and yours to come worship with us. The church is located at 610 Almond St. Our address is 1216½ S. State St. —Sophia Petrucelli.

Friends of Rev. M. W. Patterson should write him at 1248 Bolivar Rd., Cleveland, Ohio. This is also the address of the church of which he is pastor. He invites those having friends to get them in touch with him and his church. Address as above.

I am a young minister and I would like to get back in a place where there is no church, just a few saints who are on fire for God, and preach a revival where there aren't many ministers, just a few who will pray in earnest while I attempt to preach God's Word. Any one wishing to contact me may write to the following address.—Orval Lyons, Box 27, Pleasant Plains, Ark.

Everyone who has boys sent to Fort Sill, Okla., army camp, our church is located at the corner of Ninth Street and Lee Blvd. If you will let us know just what battery they are in, I will go to see them.—L. C. Pennington, pastor, Box 982, Lawton, Okla., phone 2292-M.

The local Church of God at Sandpoint, Idaho, is in urgent need of getting in contact with Rev. Clark E. Goodman. Please contact Rev. J. D. Jones, pastor, Sandpoint, Idaho.

Soldier's Weekly Letter

Dear Brothers and Sisters: I take this grand privilege to praise my King, for five years ago this month the Lord looked down in the deep ruts of sin and picked me up and started me on a run from earth to heaven. Tonight still finds me saved though I am in the Army, and at this time I am in the hospital for an operation, but I know God is still on the throne. I need the prayers of God's people. If you have never been in the Army, you do not know what a soldier goes through. I have been in the Army twenty-two months and I am stationed where there is no Church of God.

Come on, Christian people, we cannot win this war with guns and planes alone; it will take the prayers of God's children to bring about a change. Brothers and sisters, I think we are coming up short. There are about fifteen boys from my home church in the service and I think I am the only

one getting the Evangel. Beloved, are we backing our boys up? I have been in six army camps since I came in the Army and I have found the Church of God paper in only one Day Room. I received my first copy of the Evangel last week. I surely enjoyed the good reading. I read it through and put it in our Day Room for someone else to read. I always like to read the news from the mission field.

I have a brother who went in the Army in October; he is stationed down in Alabama. Thank God, he found God down there on one of those Alabama hillsides.

I ask the Christian people to please pray for me. I need encouragement also, and I would like to hear from anyone who feels led to write to me. Please pray for me.—A soldier of the cross, Pvt. Travis W. Bloodworth, 34686656, 4833 S.U.P.W., Camp Jerome, Ark.

REQUESTS FOR PRAYER

PRAY FOR:

God to undertake for my husband, my home and me.—A friend.

The healing of my brother who is in England in the Army hospital; my home.—Mrs. Ruby Moore, Cherry Valley, Ark.

God to help my home and undertake for my children and me, also that I can attend church regularly.—Mrs. Othle Cadle, Double Springs, Ala.

God to heal me of T.B. which I have had three years. Encouragement appreciated.—Hoke Anderson, Hiawassee, Ga.

The healing of body and soul of a young woman in Richmond, Va.; the Lord to heal our daughter, Naomi Ruth, and me; unspoken request. —Mrs. T. F. Blackwell, 1206 Indiana Ave., Joplin, Mo.

God to undertake for Brother Albert D. Hall, of Somerset, Ky. God understands the case and only He can change matters.—Rev. Archie McWilliams, 1732 Lafayette St., Ft. Wayne, Ind.

My husband to be healed of T.B. which he has had over three years; they let him out of the sanatorium as well, but he has relapsed and has given up all hopes. He stays in Or-

lando, Fla., 58 W. Church St. All those close enough who will go in and talk to him, it will be appreciated.—Mrs. Essery Lee, Jasper, Fla.

My husband in the Navy.—Esther Acord, Slab Fork, W. Va.

My uncle, who was hit in the head with a rock, to be saved and healed. His address is Shird Bilyer, Rt. 1, Berryville, Ark.—Mrs. Mary Green, Sta. D, Box 182, St. Joseph, Mo.

The healing of my little girl's ear.—Mrs. Alice May Spencer, Placid, Tex.

The healing of H. W. Thomas, who has hardening of the arteries of the heart; Fred Boulineau, who has tumors on every inch of his intestines.—Miss Sallie Thomas, 507 W. Hill Ave. Valdosta, Ga.

The healing of my body, I am very sick and the doctor says nothing will cure me but an operation; a son in Italy.—Mrs. Nana B. Oaks, Crab Orchard, Ky.

My son who is in a prison camp in Germany.—Mrs. W. C. Lewis, Rt. 2, Box 224, Brooksville, Fla.

God to completely heal my body. I was brought from my home in Columbus, Ga., with pneumonia, asthma and

(Continued on page 14)

Christmas Thoughts

By JOHN C. JERNIGAN, General Overseer

Text: "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder; and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace," Isaiah 9:6.

At this season of the year, our minds are directed back to a time nearly two thousand years ago, to the birth of a child in the city of Bethlehem on the other side of the world. There was also in that same country a poor, rocky, hill city called Nazareth where lived a carpenter whose wife's name was Mary. Because of a certain law that the people should be taxed, Mary and her husband, who were of the royal house of Israel and natives of the city of Bethlehem, set out on that long and weary trip from Nazareth to their native town to be taxed. They passed down by the rocky gorge to the plain of Esdraelon, across its level reaches to the town Engannim, sheltered among its fruitful orchards, where they might rest for the night. Another day of winding among the hills of Samaria would bring them under the shadows of Ebal and Gerizim.

Moving southward with the dawn by the way of Shiloah, evening falling over the uplands would find them at Bethel. Amid the strange memories that haunt the place, along the ridge of the mountains, through the land of Benjamin, the lofty eminence of Mizpah on the right, the battlements of Jerusalem and Olivet on the left, over the hill, southward past the grave of Rachel, we can follow them, till at dusk, travel-stained and weary, we see them vainly seeking admission to an overcrowded inn in the city of Bethlehem, thankful at last to share the shelter provided for the beasts of burden.

The flocks had gathered before sunset and lay in the field waiting the dawn, guarded by their shepherds who, with staff and club in hand, slept lightly near by. The far-stretching silence was broken only by the yelp of the distant jackal, the gloom pierced

but by the stars and the glimmering lights of Bethlehem through the Olives westward. Suddenly the voice of an angel ringing over the shadowy wilderness, announcing the birth of the Messiah, startled the shepherds from slumber and the glory of God shone around about them. All the air throbbed with the strains of unearthly music, and the angel said unto them, "Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And suddenly a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."

Guided by this vision and message, the shepherds came with haste to Bethlehem and found the infant Prince wrapped in swaddling clothes lying in a manger. Then "they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning the child. And all they that heard it wondered at the things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart," for she remembered how the angel had appeared to her announcing the birth of her first-born Son, who was to be the Savior of the world. Then the shepherds returned to their work, glorifying and praising God for all the things which they had seen and heard.

To the wise men of the East, a beautiful and glimmering star had appeared, which attracted their attention and brought to their memories the prophecies pointing to the birth of the great and mighty King which was to rule and govern God's people. They immediately set out in pursuit of the star, seeking the infant King. Believing He would be born in the capital city in some magnificent mansion, they stopped at Jerusalem to inquire of King Herod about Him and were surprised to learn that the king had no information concerning His birth.

The strange story of the wise men aroused the suspicion of the king and

he called a council of the mighty men of his kingdom and inquired of them where the child should be born. Citing the scriptures, they said, "And thou Bethlehem, in the land of Juda, art not the least among the princes of Juda: for out of thee shall come a Governor, that shall rule my people Israel. Then Herod, when he had privily called the wise men, inquired of them diligently what time the star appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, and said, Go and search diligently for the young child; and when ye have found him, bring me word again that I may come and worship him also."

Guided by the bright and radiant star from Jerusalem southward over hills and through forest, slowly the wise men traveled to the city of Bethlehem where the star stopped and stood over the manger wherein the young Child lay. With exceeding great joy they opened their treasures and presented unto Him kingly gifts, gold, frankincense, and myrrh, in recognition of the infinite gift that God had made to the world, which gift has become the greatest influence for good than any other event in the history of the world.

SAILOR ASKS FOR PRAYER

Dear Christian People, I have been serving my country nearly two years and now I am starting to serve One who is much greater than earthly rulers, One who rules heaven and earth. Please pray for me, each of you, that God will save my soul from the awful destruction that is coming. Pray that He will burden me with prayer.

It is hard to kneel and pray with so many to stand and scorn you, but Jesus was scorned and I mean to hold on and never give up. I kneel by my bunk and pray for the Lord to save me and I know He does answer prayer and will hear me. Everyone who can get a prayer through, please pray for me; we need your prayers and covet them. The temptations here are great and the going is tough. Our burdens are heavy. Pray that I may gain faith and strength in God and do only the things He would have me do. This world is wicked but God can hear us and I mean to never give up.

If anyone wishes to write me, my address is given below.—Lewis E. Porter S 2[c], U.S.A.T.B., Camp Bradford, Norfolk, Va.

RELIGION AND THE WORLD

By the Editor

A news dispatch from Mexico states that the Catholic Church has started a campaign to offset Protestant activities there.

Representative

The Federal Council of Churches has gone on record as unanimously opposing establishment of diplomatic relations with the Vatican. The Federal Council supposedly represents some 26,000,000 church members.

Needed Advice

which cannot be obtained from Emily Post, Dorothy Dix, or even Mr. Anthony, can be gotten from God, who has said, "If any man lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not," James 1:5.

Germans Flock Back to Church

A wireless report from Geneva through RNS states that "Religion has taken new hold on the German people, and pastors are being besieged with callers seeking spiritual reassurance." Herein lies the safety of the German people, alongside of other nations of the world.

The Bible

Is published in 1,062 languages. For now many years estimates indicate that there are from 25,000,000 to 30,000,000 copies of the Scriptures distributed throughout the world. The Scriptures are being provided for the thirty-eight languages of prisoners of war. It is reported that one person in every ten reads the Bible daily. A close estimate is reported to show a need for 600,000 to 1,000,000 copies of the Bible for Europe and Asia.

Religion and Divorce

The Ohio State Bar Association, during a recent meeting held at Columbus, at which time domestic problems and remedies were discussed, stated that "lack of religion" was the most important single factor in the current heavy increase in the divorce rate. Marriage was a divine institution. It still remains that the Bible reads, "What God hath joined to-

gether, let not man put asunder." All proper marriages are acknowledged and sanctioned of God. If Christ is enthroned in men's and women's lives, they will adhere to the Word of God and respect and love each other.

Unity

Unity may be effected by organization so far as certain purposes and functions are concerned. However, as a matter of fact, unity in the true sense of the word can only be brought about by a state of oneness being accomplished. So far as the human race is concerned, it can alone be done by the Holy Spirit. "For by one Spirit are ye all baptized into one body" (1 Cor. 12:13). The quality of mind and purpose of the mind, when originated from and controlled by the Holy Spirit, may indeed be called unity. Ere this can be realized, there must be a real smelting down of the old man by the regeneration power of the Holy Ghost, and the result is a new heart, a new nature, a new creation and therefore a united creation in Christ. This is unity in its highest state. Creeds won't do it, joining church can't do it, only the Holy Spirit.

School of "Americanism"

Editor of *Midnight Cry* in October issue of 1944 says that:

"As a blind the Communists in America announced their decision to adopt 100 per cent Americanism as their own, and under this guise they are energetically pursuing a program to make America communistic.

Since their announcement they have opened at least one new institution of higher learning, the Jefferson School of Social Science in New York. The school was named after Thomas Jefferson in line with the Communist party's practice of assuming labels designed to trade on American historical figures. Previously the party had used the names of Lincoln and Tom Paine for similar propaganda purposes. The Abraham Lincoln School is in Chicago.

The CIO will provide many of the teachers at the fall term of the Jefferson school. In addition, this latest educational enterprise of Earl Brow-

der's is tapping other sources of instructors, including Columbia University, the Board of Education, the Civilian Defense Volunteers Organization, the Child Study Association of America and the New York School of Social Work. The rest of the staff will be comprised of old Communist party intellectual stalwarts, officers of various Communist fronts, current writers for the Communist Daily Worker, and some of the New York City college teachers fired in 1940-41 legislative inquiry into subversive activities in the city school system.

Organization

This is a day of organization, a time when organization is brought into competition with organization. There are all kinds of new organizations by name and purpose. Many of these are administered by unchristian and un-American parties, both within and without the church and state, in an endeavor to overthrow both the Church and our Christian institutions, and to set up instead a godless and new form of government. These organizations always wear the name of some great political patriot, or great church leader. By their fruits ye shall know them. If they are not Christian indeed they are not Christian at all. Many of them are churchmen of some note. If they are advocating something new, be assured they seek to gain an advantage. The book *Undercover* will surprise you with what is actually going on. Price \$3.50, clothbound; 550 pages. For sale by the Publishing House.

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EDITORIAL STAFF

E. L. Simmons, Paul H. Walker, J. D. Bright, R. P. Johnson, C. C. McAfee, J. A. Cross, E. W. Williams.

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Jesus Came as Written of Him in the Book

BY PAUL H. WALKER,
Assistant General Overseer

We do not accept the plan of salvation or the divinity of Jesus Christ merely on the strength of the testimony of those of our day who claim to have found Him a reality, for we have found a "more sure word of prophecy." 2 Peter 1:17, 18, "For we received from God the Father honor and glory, when there came such a voice to him from the excellent glory, This is my beloved son, in whom I am well pleased. And this voice which came from heaven we heard, when we were with him in the holy mount."

The two foregoing verses are only the testimony of the Apostle Peter. He states what they saw and heard. They saw Jesus as He was changed into a glowing figure. They heard a voice from His excellent glory, as it came ringing from the lips of God, saying, "This is my beloved Son." But the apostle was only giving his testimony and he knew people would resent and disbelieve it, so he continues to establish his testimony by looking to the BOOK of books, for in the next verse, verse 19, he states, "We have also a MORE SURE WORD OF PROPHECY; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a LIGHT THAT SHINETH in a DARK PLACE, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts." Then to further persuade men, he went on to say, "Scripture is of no private interpretation, . . . Prophecy came not . . . by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost."

Isa. 8:20 shows if we speak not according to the law and the testimony, we have no light in us. Peter saw this light as it shone out of a dark place. He heard the heavenly utterance of God's voice which introduced Jesus to the world, then he referred us to the Book of books, the Word of God, as a more sure word of prophecy, and in this Book the coming of the Christ was clearly shown. Therefore we have the proof the prophets which were moved by the Holy Ghost as to the divinity of Jesus. We have the proof of God's voice from heaven that Jesus was His Son, and then the testimony of the apostles and disciples, plus the Christians of the last two thousand years.

Isa. 7:14, "Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign; Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel."

This word was spoken one thousand years before Christ's birth, and today it is revealed as infallible proof of His birth, for it is so written in the Book. Compare these words with Matt. 1:21, "And she shall bring forth a Son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus, for he shall save his people from their sins." These words were spoken on the strength of the fulfillment of the prophecy in Isaiah of Him. Look to Isaiah 9:6, "For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given." Now look to Luke 1:30-32, and you will find a direct fulfillment of Isaiah's prophecy again. We do have a more sure word of prophecy besides our own testimony. We found it in the Book.

Jesus, within Himself, never claimed any divine authority. He always said, "The works that I do are not mine but the Father's that sent me." "The words that I speak are the Father's." "I came not of myself, the Father hath sent me." God sent His Son into the world.

WRITTEN IN THE BOOK'S VOLUME,
I COME

Hebrews 10:7, "Then said I (He must have said this when He was with the Father in past ages), Lo, I come (in the volume of the book it is written of me) to do thy will, O God." Verse 9, "Then said he, Lo, I come to do thy will, O God. He taketh away the first that he may establish the second." This brought the appropriation of the old order and the establishment of the new. The old was sealed with the blood of animals and the new with the blood of Jesus. It is written in the Book that He established a better covenant, a better testament, a better sacrifice, a better home, a better house, a better country, a better resurrection, a better city, and rest with Him through eternal ages. Praise the

Lord. All this is written in the Book, yes, "The Book" which contains the only true philosophy of the plan of salvation, will face all men in the eternal judgment.

The Book's volume which said, "Behold, I come," brought a promise which has had the most brilliant fulfillment of any manifestation of God's handiwork throughout all ages. The Gentile prophet said, "I shall see him but not now, I shall behold him but not nigh; there shall come a star out of Jacob . . ." The wise men from the East saw this star and followed it and it led them on and on until finally they rode their camels up to the stable. I believe the light of God was there. Yes, it shone around about the stable. The star of the elements had led them to the Star of Hope, the Christ Child. My, what a time there that night as the wise unloaded their packs and brought them in! There was Joseph who knew by now that God was in the whole affair; he knew this child was to come to his home, for it was written in "The Book," and the angel of the Lord had spoken to him, now the wise men were there with their story of following the star. Mary's heart was bursting with joy as the Lord had visited her and had chosen her among all women to bring His Son into this world. The packs were brought in by the wise men and when opened here was myrrh as a sign of a prophet; frankincense, a sign of a priest; and gold, a sign of a king.

Dear ones, angels were flitting about that stable that night. All earth was aglow as on yonder hillside a whole choir of heavenly beings (angels) struck up the song to the shepherds, "Glory to God in the highest and on earth, peace and good will to men." And here they came running to Bethlehem to see the child of whom the angel spoke when he said, "For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord." Yes, He is my Savior too. Blessed be His dear name! He is the Savior of the world. Today He is sitting at the right hand of the Father as our advocate, and His people are awaiting His return to catch them away to meet Him in the air.

World Peace

By the Editor

INTRODUCTION: To write on the subject of peace is within itself a thing apparently far removed at this time. Peace is, however, a state to be obtained among men; not, however, until it is first attained between men and God. Not until men are reconciled unto God will human philosophy permit men to be reconciled unto each other. With chaos, war, and bloodshed girdling the globe, it looks like peace is a thing remote and uncertain. However, we have a promise of peace from the Scriptures. Let us examine it.

"For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition between us," Eph. 2:14.

HIS BIRTH

At His birth the angels sang, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men," Luke 2:14. The coming of Christ into the world was for the greatest possible glory unto God, in that His life would reveal God in human terms, and at the same time magnify the law and make it honorable both in the sight of God and men. The whole plan and purpose of God was to (1) reconcile men unto Himself through the death of Christ on the cross. Rom. 5:10; Eph. 2:16; 2 Cor. 5:19; (2) to reconcile men unto each other, Matt. 5:24; Eph. 2:16; Rom. 11:15. Therefore, a song of peace on earth prophetically portrayed His redemptive work in reconciling men unto God and unto each other. The fact that the world is engaged in mortal conflict does not, in any way, minimize either the purpose or the possibilities of God; it only reveals the tragic nature of sin and its consequences as a result of the rule of mankind not accepting the gospel of the grace of God and adopting a rule of righteousness within their administration of affairs. God purposed peace on earth toward all men. Christ revealed the nature of His love and peace all the way from His birth unto the cross, by doing good and healing the sick.

THE PRINCE OF PEACE

Isaiah saw Christ coming into the world as the Prince of peace. The world may wax worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived, nevertheless the fact remains that it is still the

work of Christ to champion peace, to effect and bring to earth a reign of peace and righteousness. Christ as Prince of peace is the high priest made after the order of Melchizedek, who was "King of Salem," which means King of peace.

"Of the increase of his government and peace there shall be no end, upon the throne of David, and upon his kingdom, to order it," Isa. 9:7. Isaiah, writing of the establishment of His peaceful kingdom, said, in Isa. 2:2-4, "And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow into it. And many people shall go and say, Come ye, and let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, (here is the recipe for peace) and we will walk in his paths: for out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people: and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more."

The reason peace has not yet been fully realized is because of the prolonged wickedness of men, and in that this peace has not been enthroned as an individual experience in each heart. As to the full accomplishment, it may be hindered by the hardness of impenitent souls; it will, nevertheless, come as a result of the equitable and righteous judgments of God, even after men have rejected the gospel of peace. What God cannot accomplish through the gospel of peace, He will accomplish by and through His righteous judgment.

PEACE CONFERENCES

Wise and able leaders may sit at peace tables and these may confer relative to effecting peace upon earth; it remains, however, that the sequel to any lasting peace can alone be established through the acceptance of the gospel and its tenets as administrative policies. So long as Christ is

refused a place at the peace table, just so long men will wear themselves out trying to find a way to live in peace. There can be no cure of a disease so long as the only known remedy is not applied. Christ is (1) the Prince of peace. He is (2) the author of peace, 1 Cor. 14:33. He is (3) the guide in the way of peace, Luke 1:79. There is a vast difference in a peace or peace policy effected as based upon what is right and just before God, and a peace based upon the desires of an arrogant conqueror. It is particularly a part of the intuition of wicked men to cry, "Peace, peace," when there is no peace (Jer. 6:14; 8:11) to the wicked, Isa. 57:21. Consequently, men of wicked devices account a peace treaty which does not create a peace within the hearts of men, as merely "scraps of paper." We are commanded as individuals, (1) to follow after the things which make for peace, Rom. 14:19; (2) to follow peace with all men; (3) to be at peace among yourselves, 1 Thess. 5:13. If it be interjected that Paul was prescribing peace methods for the Church, it still remains that there is no formula prescribed for the world other than that given to the Church. The greatest hindrance to peace among men, is the very fact that the peace of God is a "peace which passeth all understanding," Phil. 4:7; therefore, licentious men, though many of them professors of religion, have no actual knowledge of what the peace offered as a basis or formula or unity among mankind means.

THE WORLD TODAY

The world today is one of culture and refinement, but one that is blind and ignorant of the "wisdom of God, which none of the princes of this world know, for had they known it they would not have crucified the Lord of glory." 1 Cor. 2:7, 8. So long as Christ and the gospel of peace is not accepted as a basis and formula for world peace, the effect of the action of world rulers of today is the same mistake made by rulers when Christ preached peace upon earth, and good will toward men over nineteen centuries ago. World rulers grope in darkness, whether those of yesterday or (Continued on page 15)

The Babe of Bethlehem in Prophecy and History

We date our letters daily from the birth of our adorable Lord. We divide time between B.C. and A.D. It is all so commonplace that we are apt to overlook the essential eternal, the mightily miraculous in it. So let us recall the facts. First in

Prophecy.

Seven hundred and fifty years before the birth of our Savior and sovereign Lord, Jehovah said, "And thou, Bethlehem-Ephrathah, though thou be the least among the cities of Judah, out of thee shall he come forth who shall be leader of my people Israel, whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting" (Micah 5:2). It is clear from many passages, as we all know, that the Messiah was to be of the tribe of Judah and the house of David. But there were no Jews resident in the area when God uttered this prophetic word of power. What has happened in Europe in recent years had occurred there. The enemy had come in like a flood, taken the residents captive to serve their captors in their land, while their own lands were allotted to and exploited by the nationals of the victorious land (2 Chron. 36:11-21), so that from the human aspect there was no probability or even possibility of the fulfillment of this word of promise.

But why Bethlehem-Ephrathah? Because there were two other larger and more important Bethlehems in Palestine so named. This little village, which has never had more than 200 houses nor more than 2,000 inhabitants, possibly the oldest village in the world, had to be differentiated from the more important and better known "Bethlehems" by the distinguishing designations—"Ephrathah," or "Judah," or "of Judea." What wonders our God can work by unknown folk and out of insignificant places. God save us from despising "the day of small things."

So we turn to

History.

"Facts are facts" and "facts are stubborn things." There were no Jews resident there when "the sure word of prophecy" was given. So what? God has changed the attitude of two nations. He switched over the Babylonian power that controlled the Chaldean captivity and centered world

F. J. MILES, Editor, the Friend of Russians

power on the Persian kingdom in general and in particular on

Cyrus, King of Persia.

Here is another marvelous thing. For a century before he was born, God called him by name. The record is in the latter part of chapter 44 and the earlier section of chapter 45 of Isaiah's prophecies. "Thus saith the Lord . . . Jerusalem . . . shall be inhabited—the cities of Judah . . . shall be built—; that saith of Cyrus, he is my shepherd, and shall perform all my pleasure—For Jacob my servant's sake and Israel mine elect, I have even called thee by name—though thou hast not known me." (Read the whole passage from Isaiah 44:21 to at least through verse 41 in chapter 45.)

In due time the Neo Babylonian Empire came to an end, when this same Cyrus gained control of Babylon. The Near East was then dominated by Persia (about 538 B. C.).

Now we turn to 2 Chron. 36:22, 23, and Ezra 1:1-4 and read that God raised up Cyrus King of Persia, to issue a decree in harmony with and fulfillment of the prophecies of Jeremiah. These are recorded in Jer. 23:1-8 and 33:1-16. Probably Cyrus had not so much as heard of the existence of Jeremiah or his prophetic treatise. Cyrus issued a decree that the Jews should return to their own land. Whoever could have imagined such a thing? He also ordered that those who did not desire to return should provide the means to enable those who did to rehabilitate Jerusalem and rebuild the house of the Lord. Then God raised up LEADERS: "Fathers" and "Priests" to lead the returning Jews. The story in full is recorded in the following books; we have not space to recount it. So the Jews returned to Judea and to the region of Bethlehem-Ephrathah.

Now we start on another track which runs along the line of

Elimelech

and his household. In the beautiful book of Ruth we learn that owing to food shortage, he with his wife and two sons went to the land of Moab

seeking sustenance. The sons married Moabitish girls. In due time the three men died, leaving three widows. Then Naomi said that as there was no famine in her own land and no ties to keep her in Moab she would return to the land of her own kith and kin. In the long run, Ruth went with her and met her kinsman Boaz and the ultimate issue was the Babe of Bethlehem.

But whoever called him "Jesus of Bethlehem"? He is invariably styled

"Jesus of Nazareth"

Why? Because there "He was brought up" (cf. Luke 4:16, etc.). Then how and why "The Babe of Bethlehem"? I can recall when and how the higher critics mocked us conservative Christians for holding to the detailed record of Luke 2:1-8. It was opposed to all secular history, they affirmed. But Sir Wm. Ramsay, himself a moderate critic, went to Asia and as a result of his research established the veracity of the Lukian record. This little passage became the Waterloo of the skeptics and the Gibraltar of the Christian Church.

Caesar Augustus

did order a census. The Jews (then under the Roman regime) objected. They had religious scruples. Their petition went to Rome. It was four years after the census was taken that the rejection of the petition reached Palestine and the Jews were enrolled by order of the Roman Governor. Here enters another element—Joseph of Nazareth, an obscure carpenter, was of the tribe of Judah, the house of David, a native of Bethlehem-Ephrathah. In accordance with the customs and conditions of the census he had to go to his family headquarters to be registered. His espoused wife, the virgin Mary, "great with child," went with him and her babe was born in a manger in the cave beneath the Khan in that little village. Surely, I do not need to stress the point that "God, over all blessed forever," controlled all these folk and events in order that the

Sure Word of Prophecy

should be filled in every detail.

So we turn again to the Prophetic Word: That the Messiah came the first time as a suffering Savior and will come "the second time, without sin, unto salvation" as our Glorious

(Continued on page 15)

The B. T. S. and College Second



The twenty-seventh term of Bible Training School is proving the entire history of the school. The total enrollment for the first and 353 girls. Thirty-four states and two foreign countries and of nine different denominations, while their parents represent

There has been a wonderful revival spirit prevalent throughout thirty or forty have been filled with the Holy Ghost. A large number of aries. Next semester begins January 23. Those interested in admission. Only a few can possibly be received because of the crowded

nd Semester Begins Jan. 23, 1945



ing to be one of the most wonderful and successful terms in the first semester has amounted to 550 students, including 197 boys. 197 boys are represented this year. The students themselves are members of twenty-six different denominations.

Throughout the entire year. Approximately sixty have been saved and the number have been called to the ministry and as foreign missionaries. During this semester should write immediately for reserved conditions.--Sincerely, J. H. WALKER.



Missions • Missionaries



M. P. CROSS, Executive Mission Secretary

International Christian Brotherhood

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP FOR ALL NATIONS

JAMAICAN REPORT (Delayed)

Happy greetings to all in the name of our dear Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

On June 20, 1943, we left the United States for the Island of Jamaica. Arriving there, we were met by the brethren. A great welcome was extended to us. God being there to bless us in this great work, we labored faithfully for a few months and then we decided we needed additional strength and help from our headquarters. This help our headquarters was willing to give us, but the arrival of this blessing was delayed, due to present existing conditions beyond anyone's control. Finally, in March of 1944, our esteemed executive mission secretary, Rev. M. P. Cross, landed on the shores of Jamaica. For months we had been awaiting the arrival of this distinguished guest. We shouted when we saw him alight from the Pan-American car. Great joy was in our hearts then because what we had prayed for had just come to us. You can notice by the smiles on our faces that we are happy.

Brother Cross spent ten days with us. During this time he moderated a ministers' meeting, visited many churches and parishes, preached many sermons and gave invaluable instructions to the ministry, which caused all of us to work harder for the Master.

During his visit to Jamaica, he made many contacts with Government officials. This has proved a great blessing to us. It brought us into closer fellowship with the Government of Jamaica. They understand us better now and we are very happy that they have discovered that the Church of God is bringing men and women closer to God, then they become better Jamaican subjects.

We are happy that we have such a one as Brother Cross, whose heart seems to be wrapped up in the greatest work of the Church, that of the foreign mission department.

While in Jamaica, he wanted to know what we were doing and how we did it. He wanted to know the lo-

cations of our churches or properties. He was interested in the laity, as well as the ministry. Seeing his great enthusiasm for us Jamaicans, we tried our best to show him some of our work in this island.

On a hot Sunday we drove out in the interior on a marrying trip. We rode in the car and walked up and down the hills until we reached the little mission. There we heard some of the best singing ever. God's children had prepared and were awaiting the arrival of our dear Brother Cross. On that day, he witnessed the overseer perform five marriage ceremonies. He was amazed, I presume, as I spoke to the bride or bridegroom about their soul's salvation. When their answers were in the negative, I would tell them that it was not fair to ask me to marry sinners, and how these precious people would give their hearts to God, receiving genuine salvation! Then they would approach the altar to be united in holy wedlock.

Due to the short stay of our Executive Secretary, we were unable to show him all of our work due to the fact that we have nearly 180 congregations

in Jamaica. His visit to us brought more joy than words can tell. We trust that he will return to us in the near future. We are anticipating a great time on his return. May the Lord ever be with him, give him strength, continue to bless his soul, and endue him with power to carry on this great work for God.

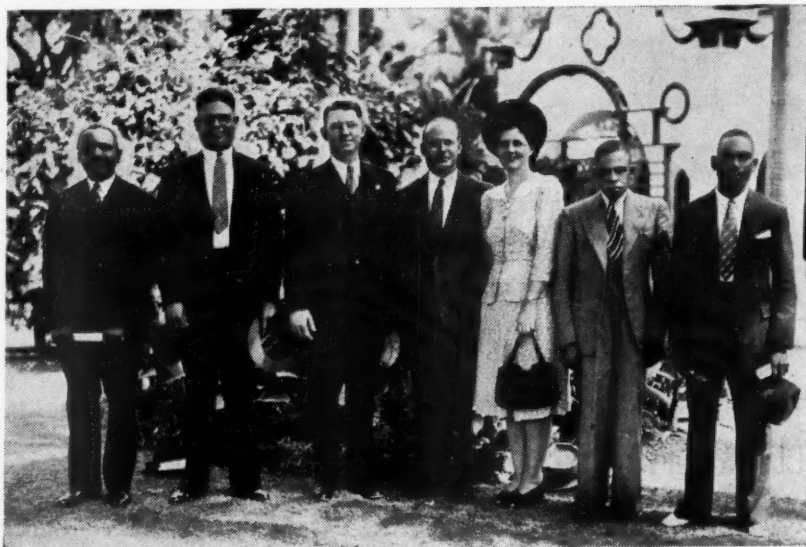
Brother Cross, Jamaica is crying today, "Come back to us once more. We desire to see your smiles. We want to hear you speak to us. We need fatherly advice at this time. Won't you please come? Come quickly!"—F. J. Thibodeau.

CONVENTIONS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES

BAHAMAS: East Street Church, Nassau, January 9-14.

NORTHERN MEXICO: Ciudad Obregon, Sonora, January 18-21.

CENTRAL AMERICA: Guatemala, February 25-28. Short meetings in El Salvador, Honduras, Panama, and British Honduras, following as soon thereafter as can be arranged. Other conventions to be announced later.



Left to right: Elder S. A. Robertson, pastor of the headquarters' church, Elder W. F. Evering, Brother Cross, Brother and Sister Thibodeau, Elder W. A. Kates, and Elder W. A. Nembhard.

Reports from the Field

District Fellowship Meeting

The Elkins, W. Va., district fellowship meeting convened at Clarksburg, W. Va., Monday, November 12. This was one of the most outstanding meetings we have had this year.

The services were well attended. The ministers and laity were at their best for God. We had wonderful testimonies from the ministers on the district.

Monday night Rev. J. L. Goins, our beloved state overseer, preached a wonderful message, and we received a mission offering of fifty-two dollars. The State of West Virginia is very fortunate to have a man and wife like Brother and Sister Goins. We believe our state this year will go forward as never before in saving souls for God, under Brother Goins' untiring efforts.

The church at Clarksburg has a wonderful pastor, Brother and Sister B. F. Cooper. They are doing a great work there. God has blessed our district with a good pastor at every church.—Ray Morgan, district overseer.

Tolstoy District Convention

South Dakota's first district convention convened November 10-12 in Tolstoy where Brother Hughes is pastor. From the time the first song was sung until the last good-bye was uttered the glory of the Lord filled the place.

Two very outstanding sermons were preached Friday and Saturday nights by Brother Arnold Folden, of Moberg. Three souls were saved Saturday night.

The Sioux Falls workers added much to the services with their sermons and messages in song. Several Bible School teachers and students who contributed to the music and singing were: Vivian Becker, Brother and Sister Yecha, Marie Meppelink, Sister David Isaacs, and Delores Hawkinson. Visiting ministers who appeared on the program and who were a great blessing to the convention were: Brother Fred Lenning, Brother Roy Rasmussen, Brother Walter Johnson, Sister David Glover, Brother C. W. Clark, and Brother Norman Jordeth.

Campground pledges and twelve

Evangel subscriptions were taken, besides other liberal offerings.

The crowning service of this convention was evident when Brother Logsdon, our state overseer, renewed our missionary vision. The offering of \$339 only partially expressed the consecration of those who gave.—Mrs. Edward Yecha, reporter.

A Special Day at Ruskin

RUSKIN, Fla.—We are happy to report that God is blessing at Ruskin. The Church of God is prospering in every department under the leadership of our good pastor, Rev. M. E. Law. Our Sunday School won the banner for the month of October. The Y.P.E. is increasing in attendance and offerings. Sunday, November 19, was for the purpose of raising funds with a day of special service at our church for the purpose of raising funds with which to start building a parsonage. The Spirit of the Lord was present while we raised \$200. At eleven o'clock the state superintendent, Rev. W. E. Johnson, gave us an inspiring message by which we all were benefited. A table was spread with many good things to eat at the noon hour. After lunch a blessed song service with special singing and music was enjoyed by all. Our Sunday School and Y.P.E. superintendent, Rev. Perdue Stanley, delivered a message that was uplifting to both young and old. Another happy event was the presence of Rev. E. E. Simmons, who set the church in order twelve years ago. Brother Simmons is one of our retired, but yet spiritual warriors.—Mrs. Lutie Barnes, clerk.

Good Spirit Prevails in Church

LEE'S CHAPEL, La.—I praise the Lord for the Church of God here. I praise Him for victory in my soul over sin and the devil. God was with us in a wonderful way last Sunday. There was singing, shouting, and talking in tongues. We had all-day service with dinner on the ground. We appreciate our good pastor, Rev. Johnny Blow. We also had with us Rev. Louis Glass and other visitors from Ponchatoula, Louisiana. A good spirit prevails in the church here. I thank God that He saved, sanctified, and filled me with the Holy Ghost twelve years ago. Pray for the church at Lee's Chapel.—Mrs. Edith Kohn, Folsom, La.

A Macedonian Call

A Macedonian call from the Amarillo, Tex., Church of God, "Come over and help us." Can't you see that beckoning hand to come to Amarillo? Throw out the fleece and let God lead you like He did the writer of this piece.

We are proud of The Church of God in Amarillo. We have a fine group of members that really pray and live close to God. We have some people that have already heard the Macedonian call and have moved here to help and be a blessing to the church.

We have a fine pastor and wife. Brother and Sister Sims have a burden for the church here. God has been giving him wonderful messages. We also have a fine district overseer. Brother Howard D. Statum. He set the church in order with a fine group of fourteen members.

We are certainly proud of our fine building on a well located corner, on a paved street, with two different buses stopping in front of the church every few minutes. Our auditorium is sixty-six feet long and forty feet wide. It has new celotex on the walls and ceiling. It has a large seating capacity, will seat several hundred people. The church property is valued at about \$8,000.

We are proud of our five-room, furnished, modern parsonage for our dear pastor and family.

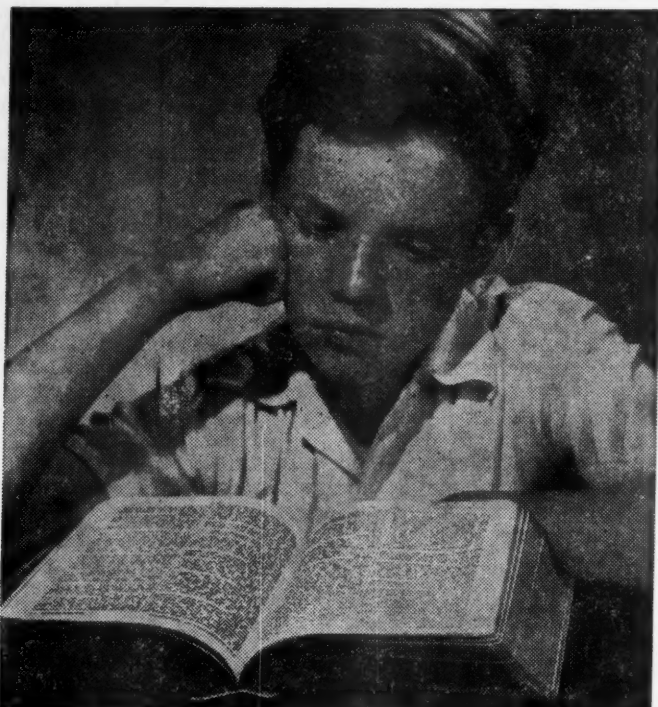
We have a fine city, with a population of about one hundred thousand people. There is plenty of work and some places are begging for hands at good salaries. There is one of the largest ammunition plants in the United States here, and a big air field and schools where they work hundreds of civilians. We have fine water and plenty of natural gas, at cheap rates. This is the finest climate in the world.

The church is located at 100 McMaster Street. Catch the McMaster bus. Parsonage phone, 2-4975.—Clerk and treasurer, Howard E. Lane, Army Tech. Village, Amarillo, Texas.

Still Blessed at Rochester

RULE, TEX.—The Lord is still blessing at Rochester. We had a fellowship meeting Sunday and had several visiting preachers, including our former pastor, Brother W. E. Mitchell. We had some real good preaching and special singing. We have a good Sunday School and Y. P. E. We thank the Lord for our good pastor, Brother Adkins, and his family.—Mrs. Lorene Rineheart.

NATIONAL BIBLE READING FROM THANKSGIVING TO CHRISTMAS



These Are the Men of Tomorrow; They Need To Read the Bible

WHAT THE BIBLE HAS MEANT TO GREAT MEN OF ALL AGES

During the momentous meeting of President Roosevelt, Prime Minister Churchill and Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek in Cairo last December, one American correspondent reported that the head of the Chinese Republic arose early every morning, in order to devote an uninterrupted half hour to Bible reading and to prayer.

This was an interesting, but not a novel piece of news. For throughout history, the great men of all ages and of all nations have been regular readers of the Bible.

"Believe me, sir, never a night goes by, be I ever so tired, but I read the Word of God before I go to bed," said General MacArthur to a secretary of the Bible Society in Australia. General MacArthur is continuing a habit that many a famous soldier before him has found to be an unfailing source of blessing.

The oath that every president of the United States takes on the Holy Bible is no meaningless tradition. The founding fathers were guided by this

Book in shaping the new republic. Both the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution derive strength from this source of eternal wisdom and equal justice.

Nearly every American president has at some time or other expressed his dependence on the Bible and urged the people to read it regularly.

George Washington stated, "It is impossible to govern rightly the world without God and the Bible."

Thomas Jefferson, author of the Declaration of Independence, remarked, "I always have said, and always will say, that the studious perusal of the Sacred Volume will make better citizens, better fathers and better husbands."

Andrew Jackson pointed to the Bible and announced, "That book, sire, is the rock on which the Republic rests."

Lincoln, one of our truly religious presidents, who resolved one of the great crises in America's history, wrote, "I am profitably engaged in reading the Bible. Take all of this Book upon reason that you can, and

the balance by faith, and you will live and die a better man."

And so it goes down the years. Theodore Roosevelt believed that the teachings of the Bible influenced nearly every individual who has contributed to the welfare of the human race. Here are his words: "Almost every man who has by his lifework added to the sum of human achievement, of which the race is proud, of which our people are proud, almost every such man has based lifework largely upon the teachings of the Bible."

Woodrow Wilson expressed these sentiments: "A man has deprived himself of the best there is in the world who has deprived himself of this (a knowledge of the Bible)."

Similarly, in other parts of the world, leaders of state, scientists, poets, and philosophers have valued the Bible.

Napoleon Bonaparte, reliving his days of glory in exile, summarized his failure in these words: "Caesar, Alexander, and I founded great empires. They were founded on force, and they are gone. Jesus Christ founded an empire on love, and to this day there are millions who are ready to die for Him." Another time, he declared: "The gospel is more than a book; it is a living creature, active, powerful, overcoming every obstacle in its way."

Queen Victoria gave a Bible to one of her courtiers, saying, "This is the secret of England's greatness." England's four greatest poets, Shakespeare, Milton, Tennyson and Browning, reveal constantly in their work their amazing knowledge and devotion to the Bible.

Thomas Huxley, who did not claim to be a religious man, said, "The Bible has been the Magna Charta of the poor and the oppressed. The human race is not in a position to dispense with it."

When Alexander, fabulous emperor of Russia, was a boy, he once exclaimed, "When I become emperor, I will emancipate the serfs." Answering his startled father's query as to what caused him to be interested in such a matter, he replied, "From reading the Bible, which teaches that all men are brothers."

George V, King of England, Sir Isaac Newton, Benjamin Franklin, Gladstone, Daniel Webster, General Pershing, Marshal Foch, Garibaldi,

Goethe, Immanuel Kant, Thomas Carlyle, Samuel Taylor Coleridge, Tolstoy, Ruskin, Dostoyevsky, and many more, all have given public testimony to the Bible. Mahatma Gandhi, beloved Indian leader, counts the New Testament among the books that have influenced him most.

The place of the Bible in a world at war has been evaluated by President Roosevelt in these vital words: "The Bible has special value in a time of war. For our fighting men, it is testimony to the eternal truth that righteousness is won and maintained only at the cost of continual struggle against the powers of darkness.

"For the populations despoiled and tortured by our common enemies, it is an indestructible monument to the ideal of retributive justice: that the unjust aggressor shall not be permitted to escape the punishment due his crimes.

"For all of us at home, it is a source of strength in privation and bereavement, and a testimony to the reality of that better world desired by all men of good will."

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

December 23

CHAPTER 22 OF THE REVELATION
OF ST. JOHN

A Selection

And he shewed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations.

And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him: and they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads.

And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light: and they shall reign for ever and ever.

And he saith unto me, Seal not the sayings of the prophecy of this book: for the time is at hand. He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still. And, behold, I come

quickly; and my reward is with me, to give every man according as his work shall be. I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last.

Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city.

December 24

THE 90TH PSALM

Lord, thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations.

Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God.

Thou turnest man to destruction; and sayest, Return, ye children of men.

For a thousand years in thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the night.

Thou carriest them away as with a flood; they are as a sleep: in the morning they are like grass which groweth up.

In the morning it flourisheth, and groweth up; in the evening it is cut down, and withereth.

For we are consumed by thine anger, and by thy wrath are we troubled.

Thou hast set our iniquities before thee, our secret sins in the light of thy countenance.

For all our days are passed away in thy wrath: we spend our years as a tale that is told.

The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and if by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is their strength labor and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away.

Who knoweth the power of thine anger? even according to thy fear, so is thy wrath.

So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom.

Return, O Lord, how long? and let it repent thee concerning thy servants.

O satisfy us early with thy mercy; that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

Make us glad according to the days wherein thou hast afflicted us, and the years wherein we have seen evil.

Let thy work appear unto thy servants, and thy glory unto their children.

And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us: and establish thou

the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands establish thou it.

December 25

ST. LUKE'S GOSPEL, CHAPTER 2

The Story of Christmas

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. (And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.) And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, (because he was of the house and lineage of David), to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them; and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them,

Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another,

Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

And they came with haste, and found Mary and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered

(Continued on page 15)

REQUESTS FOR PRAYER

(Continued from page 2)

heart trouble. God has given me strength and blessed my soul since coming here. Pray that I will soon be able to return to my home and family.—Isreal P. Pickron, Room 207 B, Veteran Hospital, Montgomery, Ala.

I am an unsaved soldier. I am married and have four precious little children. Pray that God will undertake for me, and save me and my wife. I am a patient in the hospital here; please pray that God will deliver me at once as I am badly needed at home.—A heartbroken soldier, Pvt. Roy H. Lewis, 44041399 Co. C, 30th Bn., 8th Regt., I.R.T.C., Regimental Hospital, Ward 52, Ft. McClellan, Ala.

My son overseas who was seriously wounded in action October 27 on Leyte Island in the Philippines; unspoken request.—Mrs. Mary Cotton, Gadsden, Ala.

My daughter's broken arm to be healed.—Mrs. P. H. Rogers, Sr., Laccocchee, Fla.

God to lay His hand on my niece and bring her to Him before too late. She is an orphan girl, her parents having had the Holy Ghost before they passed away. I have gone the limit and cannot go further without help.—A worried child of God, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Notice to Those Interested in Prayer

Dear Evangel Family, when we came to San Antonio, Tex., we found Sister Cloda Page in the last stage with two cancers. The doctor at the sanatorium told her she was too far gone for him to do any good. We prayed for her. That has been two months now and one of those cancers has dried up and she comes to church regularly.

We have received so many requests for prayer it is impossible for us to answer all without your sending stamped, self-addressed envelopes. There are many letters we cannot make out the addresses of.

Saints, pray lots for us here in one of the largest cities in the U.S.A.—R. O. Woodruff, pastor, 6011 S. Florse St., San Antonio, Tex.

In Need of Healing

Dear saints of God, this is a very urgent request and unless God undertakes soon I will not be here. I have T.B. of the lung. My blood pressure has not been under two hundred for

over a year and as high as two hundred forty. I have heart trouble and kidney trouble.

I had T.B. of the bone sixteen years ago, with five openings, and someone prayed the prayer of faith and God healed me. My right limb was drawn right back under me and today it is as straight as the other. The blessed Bible says He is the same today, yesterday and forever. Praise God, the devil can make me sick but he can't get my soul, for I am watching that. I know with this great band of God's children someone can get a prayer through. He has healed me many times.

I had seventeen hemorrhages in the space of three weeks and I have not recovered. Please pray for God to touch my body. My husband doesn't believe in this way and I suffer many things from that, but God is able to make a way where there seemeth no way. I was baptized with the blessed Holy Ghost and have the witness of speaking in tongues. I do not get to go to church and I have many trials to bear and I am very nervous.

Please pray for my family. I took a little boy at nine months of age and he is now almost seventeen and has the mind of a child three or four years. Pray for him. I want God to take him before He does me so I will know that he will be shielded from all knocks of this cruel world.

When I get the Evangel I turn first to the prayer requests and I do pray and ask God to grant the requests. God has been good to me even though I do suffer. He saved, sanctified and filled me with the sweet Holy Ghost.—A sister, Georgia Norris, Hartford, Ky.

REPORTS

God Is Answering Our Prayers

LA FRANK, W. Va.—We, the Church of God people of La Frank and Richmond, West Virginia, have had no place in which to worship God, only in old abandoned buildings here and there. For about nine years we have had no pastor only as Brother Dewey Davis, who was not a licensed minister, but a faithful leader in the church here, took the oversight and was a real shepherd over the little flock all the time we had no pastor. We went through some hard trials. We stood with Brother Davis and he stood with us and God has led us through with victory. Praise His dear name. Now we have a fine, good, humble pastor whom we love, Brother H. B.

Jenkins, and the Lord is blessing his work here. We asked God to help us get a good location for a church and to open the way for us to build. He heard and is answering our prayers. A sinner man, who is interested in the way, donated us a lot large enough for a church and parsonage. Another man and his wife are seeking to learn more of the Church of God. They gave us one hundred dollars. Two other men have promised one hundred dollars. The mayor of the town gave us permission to canvass the town for offerings. Praise God! I believe when Jesus comes He will find faith and a good Church of God here in Nicholas County.

The Church of God Organized in Tulsa, Oklahoma

We came here from the Assembly September 27 and began to try to organize a church in Tulsa, which is a nice defense town. We had no place to worship so began to pray and ask God to help us. We found a few Church of God members and by their help, that of our state overseer, Brother Hughes, and our district overseer, Brother R. D. Cook, we began to work. A Free Holiness organization sold out their possession to us. We organized a Sunday School with seventeen members. Last Sunday we had fifty-four. Our Y. P. E. is growing also. We won the state banner for this month. We have just closed a three weeks' revival conducted by Rev. and Mrs. Joseph Daniels, which was a blessing to our new church. Six were saved, two sanctified, and three filled with the Holy Ghost. The church was set in order at the close of the revival with eight members. Others are looking forward to the Church of God. For this we praise the Lord.—A. B. Smith, Box W491, West Tulsa Station, Tulsa 7, Okla.

Wonderful Revival

TWILA, Ky.—I praise the Lord for the wonderful revival we have just closed here at Twila. Sister Mary Wilson did some wonderful preaching under the anointing of the Holy Ghost. Sister Wilson is surely a woman of God. The saints were blessed and drawn closer to the Lord. Five were saved and other seekers were at the altar each night. Everyone is greatly encouraged to press on. Pray for us here at Twila, that the Lord will continue to bless and give us a great zeal to work for the Master.—The pastor, Roy Dagnan.

WORLD PEACE

(Continued from page 6)

today, so long as Christ the true light that lighteth every man coming into the world is rejected. He is our peace. He it is who has broken down the middle wall of partition between Jew and Gentile, who can alone make peace.

Those who accept Christ as Savior and Lord, still sing the songs the angels sang; they sing of peace and of good will toward men. Though the world is in the death pangs of sorrow and woe, the believing child of God reflects joyously back to Bethlehem where Christ was born, and from thence to Calvary where the promised peace was negotiated between an offended God and an offending, sinful creation through the death of Christ. John tells us that "the whole world lieth in wickedness," but literally it should read "the whole world lieth in the WICKED ONE." John 5:19. Here is the hindrance to world peace. The whole world cannot "lie in the wicked one" and at the same time enjoy a peace that comes from Christ the righteous King.

Antichristian philosophies, though successful in time of war by means of mammoth armies, cannot bring to the world a lasting peace. Any peace such men will effect will be one-sided and far short of the peace Christ came to bring to earth. Tyrannical rulers, like Hitler, Mussolini, the rulers of Japan, and even some rulers popular with the Allies, know absolutely nothing about the peace of Jesus Christ. It might have seemed a thing desirable in the eyes of Hitler to destroy the Jews, however, though that nation was apostate before the coming of Christ, and decidedly more so since, by His rejection and crucifixion, it remains that they were first of all God's chosen people, and were still beloved for the Father's sake. The gospel was unto the "Jew first." Two things stand out paramount which hinder the peace of the world regardless of political objectives. The first is the persecution of the Jews. The second is the antichristian policy. Before peace can come to mankind in any appreciable manner the Jew must be allowed to again return to his homeland of Palestine for the covenant of God requires it. The gospel must also be allowed to be preached and unhindered and unmoled for it is from the ranks of the Jews and the Christians that Christ purposes to furnish a new race for a new kingdom to populate a new earth.

HIS SECOND COMING

While, as I before mentioned, world peace may be relegated to the background for the time being, by wicked conjurers and arrogant rulers, such men still have to do with this fact, that Christ, when He comes again, will not come riding a colt, but He will come in power and great glory, with the angels and saints, to rule in His glorious kingdom. He came to Bethlehem as a tiny babe, to acquaint Himself with man's sufferings and to grow up as a tender plant before the Lord, that He might build up the brotherhood of mankind by His atoning death upon the cross. He now awaits the preaching of the gospel of peace to a world torn with war, strife and sin. But He will, even amidst such tragedies, still reconcile men unto God and to each other and make of both Jew and Gentile one "new man" and so make peace between them. Nevertheless, at a time unexpected, but at a time most welcomed and certainly sore needed, He will come to earth the second time to establish PEACE upon earth and good will toward all mankind. While we wait for this glorious event, may we be both prayerful and faithful.

THE BABE OF BETHLEHEM IN PROPHECY AND HISTORY

(Continued from page 7)

Lord, to establish His kingdom (1 Cor. 15:25) needs no detailed discussion. The return of the Jews to Palestine in unbelief, according to Ezekiel 36-39 and parallel passages, is an absolutely unique indication of the imminence of His second advent. So if the Lord tarry, we shall step out into

1945, Our Most Momentous Year, on any day or hour of which we may "meet the Lord in the air." So we shall wait and watch, walk and work, worship and witness to woo others to Him "while it is day," "lest coming he find us sleeping," that "we be not shamed from his presence at his coming," because we have been unfaithful or slothful. So here from "the Babe of Bethlehem," God's "Holy Child Jesus," our Savior and Sovereign Lord, comes call and challenge to rededicate our person and rededicate our God-given powers to His glory in seeking the eternal good of our fellow men.

And with what exaltation of spirit! What exhilaration of joy for

"Jesus may come today: Glad day!

Glad day!

And I would see my Friend; dangers

and troubles would end
If Jesus should come today.

Glad day! Glad day! Is it the crowning day?

I'll live for today, nor anxious be,
Jesus, my Lord, I soon shall see;
Glad day! Glad day! Is it the crowning day?"

Every day as it dawns we shall ask, "Is it the crowning day?" and we shall live and give, pray and practice, and go in harmony with our heartfelt prayer, "Even so come, Lord Jesus."

God bless you this Christmas and make 1945 the best yet, is the earnest prayer of

Yours because His.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

(Continued from page 13)

at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

Did Good Work at Lenoir, N. C.

LENOIR, N. C.—Brother G. D. Lemons had been at Lenoir, N. C., for the past six years, this year going to Gastonia, N. C. During this period of time he did many wonderful things for the church. When he first came to Lenoir the church was in debt. He helped to pay off the debt and then began raising money on a new church, because this one was too small. He worked in different ways to help. Sister Lemons lay in bed sick and made bouquets and pocketbooks and sold them. We now have over \$4,000 cash in our building fund treasury.—A friend.

CHRISTMAS

Carmen L. Carter

We all remember Christmas,
It's the day Christ was born;
It happened in a stable
On one bright and starry morn.
He was just a tiny baby;
They cried with good cheer,
And rushed to see Him
For He was very dear.

The three wise men saw the star
And followed to see where it led;
They traveled all the night and day
Before they found the bed.
There on the straw lay the Babe
In His mother's arms.
They knew the star had guided them
To the far-off barn.
We all remember Christmas,
It's the day Christ was born.

Tell Me About the Master



Tell me about the Master!

*I am weary and worn tonight,
The day lies behind me in shadow,
And only the evening is light;
Light with a radiant glory
That lingers about the west;
My poor heart is aweary, aweary,
And longs, like a child, for rest.*

Tell me about the Master!

*Of the hills He in loneliness trod,
When the tears and the blood of His
anguish
Dropped down on Judea's sod.
For to me life's numerous milestones
But a sorrowful journey mark;
Rough lies the hill country before me,
The mountains behind me are dark.*

Tell me about the Master!

*Of the wrong He freely forgave:
Of His love and tender compassion,
Of His love that is mighty to save;
For my heart is aweary, aweary
Of the woes and temptations of life,
Of the error that stalks in the noonday,
Of falsehood and malice and strife.*

Yet I know that, whatever of sorrow

*Or pain or temptation befall,
The infinite Master has suffered,
And knoweth and pitieth all.
So tell me the sweet old story,
That falls on each wound like a
balm,
And my heart that was bruised and
broken
Shall grow patient and strong and
calm.*

—Poems With Power.